



# BONHOMME RICHARD'S ALMANAC

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***"I have not yet begun to fight!"***



## MIDEAST SUMMIT MEETING PROVING ELUSIVE

By Jane Perlex

The Israelis and Palestinians on Wednesday appeared to remain far from meeting the conditions set down by the Clinton administration for an early summit meeting in Washington. But Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, who came here to assess the two sides' readiness, said that President Clinton would make a decision in the next few days.

Albright and her aides left open the possibility that President

Clinton might decide that now was the time to seize the moment and go for an immediate summit meeting. Palestinian officials, however, suggested that they would prefer more negotiations over the next two weeks so they could improve their positions for a meeting a bit later.

Albright refused to concede that an immediate summit meeting was unlikely, even though she has said that it would not be fruitful to call one unless the two sides had significantly narrowed their differences.

The president, speaking at a news conference at the White House, said that nothing had been scheduled. But he added that he did not think the final, most difficult issues could be resolved unless the Israeli and Palestinian leaders "get together in some isolated setting and make the last tough decisions, or decide not to make them, as the case may be."

A top aide to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, Nabil Shaath, ruled out the possibility of a summit meeting in the next two weeks. "We would like to see a summit held in the White House presided over by President Clinton to be successful," Shaath said, indicating that it was still too soon. "You can't bridge oceans, it's much easier to bridge rivers."



USS BONHOMME RICHARD held another small arms firing yesterday. (Photo by JO3 Laura C. Wiggins.)

## NATIONAL NEWS

### SUPREME COURT RULES SCOUTS CAN EXCLUDE GAYS

By Linda Greenhouse

The Supreme Court ruled by a 5-4 vote that the Boy Scouts have a constitutional right to exclude gay members because opposition to homosexuality was part of the organization's "expressive message."

The decision overturned a ruling last year by the New Jersey Supreme Court that applied the state's law against discrimination in public accommodations to require a New Jersey troop to readmit a life-long member and assistant Scoutmaster, James Dale, whom it had dismissed after learning he was gay.

Writing for the court, Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist said that the court intended neither to approve nor disapprove the Boy Scouts' view of homosexuality, but that the First Amendment's protection for freedom of association meant that the state could not compel the 6.2-million member organization "to accept members where such acceptance would derogate from the

organization's expressive message."

He said "Dale's presence in the Boy Scouts would, at the very least, force the organization to send a message, both to the youth members and the world, that the Boy Scouts accepts homosexual conduct as a legitimate form of behavior."

The four dissenters did not object to the principle that an organization cannot be forced to adopt or incorporate an unwanted message, a principle the court applied five years ago in upholding the right of

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## STOCK MARKET

The Nasdaq composite jumped 81.38 points, or 2.11 percent, to close at 3,940. The Dow Jones industrial average held on to a gain of 23.33 points, to 10,527.79. Standard & Poor's 500-stock index climbed 4.27 points, to finish at 1,454.82.

## BONHOMME RICHARD'S ALMANAC

*Capt. Robert J. Connelly, Commanding Officer  
JOC (SW/AW) Stephen K. Robinson, Public Affairs Officer  
JOL (SW) Robert W. Garrard, Asst. Public Affairs Officer  
JO3 Laura C. Wiggins, Editor  
L11 Jimmie Claspell, Print Shop*

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### \*SATURDAY'S SITE TV SCHEDULE\*

#### CHANNEL 2

1030 SISTER ACT

1630 FLUBBER

1800 THE BONE COLLECTOR

2000 IN DREAMS

2145 NORMA JEAN AND MARILYN

#### CHANNEL 6

1030 GREMLINS 2

1630 TARZAN AND THE LOST CITY

1800 TRADING PLACES

2000 WHAT PLANET ARE YOU FROM

2145 DEEP BLUE SEA

TV SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE  
DUE TO OPERATIONAL COMMITMENTS

## **N A T I O N A L / I N T E R N A T I O N A L N E W S**

# **CUBAN BOY RETURNS AFTER SEVEN MONTHS**

*By David Gonzalez*

Hours after the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear any more arguments in the Elian Gonzalez case, the 6-year-old left behind seven months of contention, conflict and court battles, and returned home to Cuba with his father.

Elian arrived to the embrace of relatives and the excited cheers of hundreds of flag-waving school-children. Students hurriedly bused in from their hometown of Cardenas waved flags and chanted: "Elian! Elian!" They arrived just in time to meet the two planes that ferried Elian, his father and other friends and relatives from Washington.

Moments later, his father, Juan Miguel Gonzalez, carried the boy off the plane and into the arms of his grandparents, including his two grandmothers, who had made an unsuccessful journey to reclaim the boy.

Despite the excitement of the small crowd at the airport, Elian was quiet, waving at times to his friends. No public remarks were made, and no news conferences or rallies are planned.

President Fidel Castro did not greet the child at Jose Marti International Airport, being represented instead by Ricardo Alarcon, the president of the National Assembly, who has guided the campaign for Elian's return. The airport ceremony lasted only 10 minutes before the child and his

entourage were whisked away.

Elian, his father, his step-mother, Nersy, and his half brother, Hianny, left Dulles International Airport in Virginia at 4:41 p.m., just hours after the Supreme Court declined to hear arguments presented by lawyers for Elian's Miami relatives that he had been denied a right to an asylum hearing.

In November, a failed crossing from Cuba drowned Elian's mother and 10 others and left the boy floating alone in an inner tube off the Florida coast. The court's decision was the final development in a series of challenges brought by Elian's Miami relatives.

### **U.S. & RUSSIA PLAN JOINT EXERCISE**

*By New York Times*

In an effort to broaden their military cooperation, Russia and the United States are planning to conduct a joint exercise of their missile defenses, a senior United States official said.

**SUPREME COURT RULES** From Page 2  
the Boston St. Patrick's Day parade organizers to exclude a group that sought to march under a banner of Irish gay pride.

But the dissenters objected to that principle's application in this case, because they said the majority had done little more than accept at face value the Boy Scouts' assertion of the importance of its opposition to homosexuality.





## Revolutionary Gator Of The Day



ET3 Leonard J. Howerter  
AIMD Department, IMO3 Division

## SPORTS

### METS' VICTORY IS 7TH STRAIGHT *By New York Times*

Called in with the bases loaded and the Florida Marlins holding a two-run lead in the sixth inning, reliever Ricky Bones could not halt a sudden outbreak of wildness and sloppy play that helped the Mets earn their seventh victory in a row, 6-5.

The Mets' five-run outburst in the sixth-inning gave the victory to Bobby J. Jones, who worked six innings to even his record at 3-3.

#### Other NL scores:

Chicago	5	Pittsburgh	4
Atlanta	7	Montreal	4
Cincinnati	7	St. Louis	3

#### AL scores:

Detroit	13	New York	6
Toronto	5	Tampa Bay	2
Kansas City	8	Cleveland	1

#### Hometown:

Mount Carmel, Pennsylvania

Qualifications: Calibration Technician responsible for type 4 I level calibration and repair of ship's and Marine Detachment electronics and physical/mechanical equipment.

ET3 Howerter is a highly motivated technician and proven maintenance professional with a versatile and highly competitive work ethic. He has significantly improved work center proficiency by personally completing over 250 inductions and assisting the workcenter in maintaining a 97.7 RFI(ready for issue) percentage rate. This was accomplished by conducting on-the-job training sessions with subordinates and less experienced technicians.

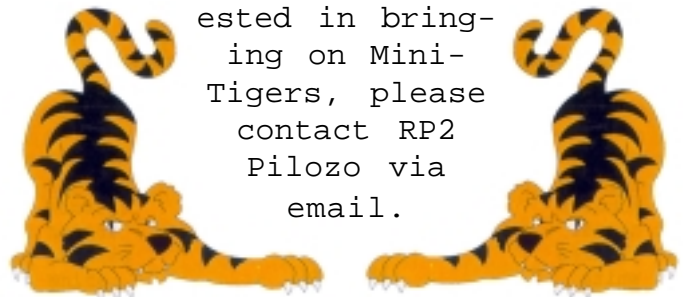
He is also the IM03 Divisional RPPO where he is responsible for maintaining and distributing \$6,000.00 worth of materials. He is a true team builder continually seeking positions of increased responsibility and readily accepts every challenge ensuring outstanding results.

### MINI-TIGER CRUISE NOTE

The ship will have a Mini-Tiger Cruise from 23 to 24 of July.

Mini-Tigers will embark the ship via LCU's out of Camp Pendleton on the 23rd and will ride the ship to

San Diego. The same eligibility requirements for our extended Tiger cruise apply to the Mini-Tiger cruise. If you are interested in bringing on Mini-Tigers, please contact RP2 Piloza via email.





## Sources of Help *for Military*

### HOW TO COMPLAIN EFFECTIVELY

- See your Command Financial Specialist for guidance.
- Save all purchase-related paperwork. Include copies of sales receipts, repair orders, warranties, canceled checks, contracts, and any letters to or from the company.
- If you have a problem:
  1. Contact the company that sold you the item or performed the service.
  2. Clearly and calmly describe the problem and the action you would like them to take.
  3. Keep a record of your efforts to resolve the problem. When you write to the company, explain the problem, what you have done so far to try to resolve it, and the solution you are seeking. For example, are you asking for your money back, for the product to be repaired, or for a product exchange?
  4. Send a certified letter with return receipt requested.
- Allow time for the person you contacted to resolve your problem. Keep notes of the name of the person you spoke with, the date, and what was said and done. Don't give up until you are satisfied. Use the resource list on the reverse side of this page for consumer protection contacts.

### TO REMOVE NAME FROM SOLICITATION LISTS, WRITE:

Junk Mail: Preference Service  
The Direct Marketing Association  
P.O. Box 9008

### SAMPLE COMPLAINT LETTER

(Name of Contact Person, if available)  
(Title, if available)  
(Company Name)  
(Consumer Complaint Division,  
(Street Address)  
(City, State, ZIP Code)

Dear (Contact Person):

On (date), I (bought, leased, etc.) the product with serial or model date, and other important detail.

Unfortunately, your product (or the service was inadequate) disappointed because (explain the product does not work properly, the service I was billed the wrong amount, or was misrepresented, etc.).

To resolve the problem, I want (action you want — money back, exchange, etc.). Enclosed are copies of records (include receipts, guarantees, contracts, model and serial numbers).

I look forward to your reply and will wait until (set a time limit) by the protection agency or the Better Business Bureau at the above address or by phone (with area codes).

Enclosure(s)

cc: (reference to whom you are writing)

*Keep copies of your letter and records.*

### HELPFUL INTERNET SITES

http://www.consumer.gov

# DAPA CORNER: HERE ARE THE STRAIGHTFACTS

## About Methamphetamine

Methamphetamine is a stimulant drug chemically related to amphetamine but with stronger effects on the central nervous system. Street names for the drug include "speed," "meth," and "crank."

Methamphetamine is used in pill form, or in powdered form by snorting or injecting. Crystallized methamphetamine known as "ice," "crystal," or "glass," is a smokable and more powerful form of the drug.

The effects of methamphetamine use include:

- increased heart rate and blood pressure
- increased wakefulness; insomnia
- increased physical activity
- decreased appetite
- respiratory problems
- extreme anorexia
- hyperthermia, convulsions, and cardiovascular problems, which can lead to death
- euphoria
- irritability, confusion, tremors
- anxiety, paranoia, or violent behavior
- can cause irreversible damage to blood vessels in the brain, producing strokes

Methamphetamine users who inject the drug and share needles are at risk for acquiring HIV/AIDS.

Methamphetamine is an increasingly popular drug at raves (all night dancing parties), and as part of a number of drugs used by college-aged students. Marijuana and alcohol are commonly listed as additional drugs of abuse among methamphetamine treatment admissions. Most of the methamphet-

amine-related deaths (92%) reported in 1994 involved methamphetamine in combination with at least one other drug, most often alcohol (30%), heroin (23%), or cocaine (21%). Researchers continue to study the long-term effects of methamphetamine use.

## About Marijuana

Marijuana is the most widely used illicit drug in the United States and tends to be the first illegal drug teens use. The physical effects of marijuana use, particularly on developing adolescents, can be acute.

### Short-term effects of using marijuana:

- Sleepiness, difficulty keeping track of time, impaired or reduced short-term memory, reduced ability to perform tasks requiring concentration and coordination, such as driving a car.
- Increased heart rate  
Potential cardiac. Dangers for those with preexisting heart disease.
- Bloodshot eyes, dry mouth and throat.
- Decreased social inhibitions  
Paranoia, hallucinations.
- Infertility
- Diminished or extinguished sexual pleasure. Psychological dependence requiring more of the drug to get the same effect.

Marijuana blocks the messages going to your brain and alters your perceptions and emotions, vision, hearing, and coordination.

A recent study of 1,023 trauma patients admitted to a shock trauma unit found that one-third had marijuana in their blood.